

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE -PATENT-

Applicant/Appellant: Honeywell International Inc.

Inventor:

Mario DiMarco

Serial No.:

09/224,340

Filing Date:

December 31, 1998

Title:

MODIFIED IMA CABINET ARCHITECTURE

Examiner:

Tuan T. Dinh

Art Unit:

2841

TO:

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

APPELLANT'S REPLY BRIEF PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.193(b)(1)

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Dear Assistant Commissioner:

This Reply Brief is in response to the Examiner's Answer mailed on November 19, 2002 ("Examiner's Answer"). Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.193(b)(1), Appellant may file a Reply Brief in response to the Examiner's Answer within two months from the date of such Answer. Accordingly, Appellant is filing this Reply Brief, which addresses an error in the Examiner's Answer in connection with the Grouping of Claims. This reply brief is being submitted in triplicate.

In the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner contends that the rejection of claims 1-7 and 9-24 stand or fall together because Appellant's Brief (filed April 11, 2003) allegedly does not include a statement that this grouping of claims does not stand or fall together including the reasons thereof.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.192(c)(7), for each ground of rejection, the Board shall select a single claim from the group and decide the appeal as to the ground of rejection, unless a statement is included that the claims of the group do not stand or fall together and Appellant explains why the claims of the ground are believed to be separately patentable. Indeed, the Appeal Brief filed by Appellant on April 11, 2003 ("Appellant's Brief") included statements on pages 5 and 6 that the grouping of claims under each ground of rejection do not stand or fall together. In Appellant's Brief, Appellant provided Groups I-XVI indicating which claims stand or fall together. In addition, Appellant explains why the claims of the ground are believed to be separately patentable on pages 22-24 of Appellant's Brief. Appellant attaches herewith pages 5, 6, and 22-24 of Appellant's Brief filed on April 11, 2003 for convenience.

For the above reasons, as well as all of those arguments set out on previous papers contained in the record, Appellant contends that Appellant's pending patent claims are directed to patentable subject matter and respectfully requests this Board to so indicate.

Dated: 1-14-04

Respectfully submitted,

Shahpar Shahpar

U.S. Registration No. 45,875

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Whether Claims 4 and 5 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §112, second C. paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicants regard as the invention.

VII. **GROUPING OF CLAIMS**

The Examiner's rejection of Claims 1, 13, and 22-24 under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b) do not stand or fall together. More specifically, the following groups of claims are believed to be separately patentable:

In Group I, Claims 1, 13, 16, 17, and 22 stand together,

In Group II, Claim 23 stands alone, and

In Group III, Claim 24 stands alone.

The Examiner's rejection of Claims 2-5, 19, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) do not stand or fall together. More specifically, the following groups of claims are believed to be separately patentable:

In Group IV, Claim 2 stands alone;

In Group V, Claim 3 stands alone;

In Group VI, Claim 4 stands alone;

In Group VII, Claim 5 stands alone;

In Group VIII, Claim 19 stands alone; and

In Group IX, Claim 20 stands alone.

The Examiner's rejection of Claims 6, 7, and 9-11 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) do not stand or fall together. More specifically, the following groups of claims are believed to be separately patentable:

In Group X, Claim 6 stands alone, and

In Group XI, Claims 7, 9, 10, and 11 stand together.

The Examiner's rejection of Claims 14-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) do not stand or fall together. More specifically, the following groups of claims are believed to be separately patentable:

In Group XII, Claim 14 stands alone;

In Group XIII, Claim 15 stands alone; and

In Group XIV, Claim 18 stands alone.

The Examiner's rejection of Claims 12 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) do not stand or fall together. More specifically, the following groups of claims are believed to be separately patentable:

In Group XV, Claim 12 stands alone, and In Group XVI, Claim 21 stands alone.

The Examiner's rejection of Claims 4 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §112 (second paragraph) do not stand or fall together. More specifically, the following groups of claims are believed to be separately patentable:

In Group VI, Claim 4 stands alone; and In Group VII, Claim 5 stands alone.

VIII. ARGUMENT

A. The Examiner Has Not Established Anticipation Of Appellant's Claims By The Cited Reference

Claims 1, 13, and 22-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Mazura, U.S. Patent No. 5,375,724, issued December 27, 1994 ("Mazura"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

To sustain this rejection, the Examiner must establish that "the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country... more than one year prior to the date of the application for patent in the United States". 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). "A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. To anticipate a claim for a patent, a single prior source must contain each of its limitations. In other words, "every limitation of a claim must identically appear in a single prior art reference for it to anticipate the claim." To anticipate a claim, a reference must disclose every element of the challenged claim and enable one skilled in the art to make the anticipating subject matter."

¹ Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

² Hybridtech, Inc. v. Monoclonal Antibodies, Inc., 802 F.2d 1376, 231 U.S.P.Q. 81, 90 (Fed. Cir. 1986); In re Donohue, 766 F.2d 531, 226 U.S.P.Q. 619, 621 (Fed. Cir. 1985).

³ Gechter v. Davidson, 116 F.3d 1454 (Fed. Cir. 1997) (emphasis added). ⁴ PPG Indus., Inc. v. Guardian Indus. Corp., 75 F.3d 1558 (Fed. Cir. 1996).

when a large mechanical advantage and irreversible motion are desired" ³⁷ Accordingly, by definition and as further described above, the screws can "apply a predetermined amount of force between said face plate of the PCB module and said chassis" by clutching and/or self-latching (e.g., screws 316 and 318 can be turned without further tightening, or they cannot be extracted without being turned in the opposite direction). Thus, the above definition of a jack screw and examples of the present invention illustrates how the screws apply a predetermined amount of force and what causes the predetermined amount of force. Therefore, Claims 4 and 5, Groups VI and VII, are in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and thus patentable.

D. Separately Patentable Claims

In addition to the foregoing discussion, the following various groups of claims are separately patentable for the following reasons:

With respect to Group I, Claim 1 is patentable over the cited reference. The cited reference fails to disclose "each PCB module includes a faceplate and a connector assembly disposed opposite said faceplate such that each PCB module is enclosed" and "said plurality of printed circuit board modules creates a seal with said chassis" as recited in Claim 1.

With respect to Group II, Claim 23 is patentable over the cited reference. The cited reference fails to disclose "said plurality of printed circuit board modules creates a seal with said chassis" as recited in Claim 23.

With respect to Group III, Claim 24 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to disclose "each PCB module is enclosed" and "said plurality of printed circuit board modules creates a seal with said chassis" as recited in Claim 24.

With respect to Group IV, Claim 2 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest "each of said plurality of PCB modules further comprises: a first screw for attaching said first end of said face plate to said chassis; and a second screw for attaching said second end of said face plate to said chassis" as recited in Claim 2.

³⁷ WEBSTER'S THIRD NEW INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY (Unabridged) 2040 (Merriam-Webster, Inc. 1993).

With respect to Group V, Claim 3 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest where "said first screw is configured as a jack screw" as recited in Claim 3.

With respect to Group VI, Claim 4 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest where "said first and second screws are configured to clutch when said screws are tightened to apply a predetermined amount of force between said face plate of the PCB module and said chassis" as recited in Claim 4.

With respect to Group VII, Claim 5 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest where "said predetermined amount of force applies a load of about 70 pounds per screw" as recited in Claim 5.

With respect to Group VIII, Claim 19 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest where "said top panel and said bottom panel are configured with a plurality of guide rails for guiding said PCB modules into said slots in said chassis" as recited in Claim 19.

With respect to Group IX, Claim 20 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest where "each slot in said chassis has one guide rail mounted on said top panel and one guide rail mounted on said bottom panel, wherein said guide rails are centrally mounted with respect to each slot" as recited in Claim 20.

With respect to Group X, Claim 6 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest "a first circuit board having a first end connected to said face plate and an opposite second end connected to said connector assembly, and a second circuit board having a first end connected to said face plate and an opposite second end connected to said connector assembly" as recited in Claim 6.

With respect to Group XI, Claim 7 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest "said connector assembly further comprises a plurality of connectors for connecting to wire harnesses" as recited in Claim 7.

With respect to Group XII, Claim 14 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest "said top panel and said bottom panel are interchangeable" as recited in Claims 14.

With respect to Group XIII, Claim 15 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest "said first side panel and said second side panel are interchangeable" as recited in Claim 15.

With respect to Group XIV, Claim 18 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest or "said ventilation holes are less than about 0.09 inches in diameter" as recited in Claim 18.

With respect to Group XV, Claim 12 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest or a face plate having "a slot formed therein", "a flexible handle member having substantially the same dimensions as said slot", where the flexible handle member is "configured to move between a retracted position and a use position", and where the flexible handle member lies within the "slot in said retracted position and said flexible handle member extends out from said slot in said use position" as recited in Claim 12.

With respect to Group XVI, Claim 21 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest or a retainer member configured to attach the first end of the flexible handle member to the first end of the slot such that the flexible handle member is configured to move between a retracted position and a use position, where the first end of the flexible handle member does not move when the flexible handle member moves between the retracted position and the use position as recited in Claim 21.



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With respect to Group II, Claim 23 is patentable over the cited reference. The cited reference fails to disclose "said plurality of printed circuit board modules creates a seal with said chassis" as recited in Claim 23.

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With respect to Group IV, Claim 2 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest "each of said plurality of PCB modules further comprises: a first screw for attaching said first end of said face plate to said chassis; and a second screw for attaching said second end of said face plate to said chassis" as recited in Claim 2.

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With respect to Group V, Claim 3 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest where "said first screw is configured as a jack screw" as recited in Claim 3.

With respect to Group VI, Claim 4 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest where "said first and second screws are configured to clutch when said screws are tightened to apply a predetermined amount of force between said face plate of the PCB module and said chassis" as recited in Claim 4.

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With respect to Group VIII, Claim 19 is patentable over the various combination of references. The various combination of references fails to teach, advise, or suggest where "said top panel and said bottom panel are configured with a plurality of guide rails for guiding said PCB modules into said slots in said chassis" as recited in Claim 19.

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PTO/SB/17 (10-03)
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Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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FEE TRANS	ΙΔΤΤΙΝ	Complete if Known			
•		Application Number	09/224,340		
for FY 20	JU4	Filing Date	December 31, 1998		
Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subj	iect to annual revision.	First Named Inventor	Mario DiMarco		
Applicant claims small entity status.	See 37 CFR 1.27	Examiner Name	Tuan T. Dinh		
		Art Unit	2841		
TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT	(\$) \$330.00	Attorney Docket No.	46180.3900/A62-17022-US		

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1. BASIC FILING FEE Large Entity Small Entity Fee Fee Fe	Charge fee	(s) indica	ated be	low, except for the	e filing fee	4054	440	0054			
1. BASIC FILING FEE 1253 950 2253 475 Extension for repty within third month 1256 1254 1,480 2254 740 Extension for repty within fourth month 1256 12	to the above-ide	entified d	eposit a	account.						, <u>,</u>	
1. BASIC FILING FEEL Small Entity Fee Fe		FI	EE C	ALCULATIO	N					• •	
Teb Fee	1. BASIC	FILIN	G FE	E							
1401 330 2401 165 Notice of Appeal 1401 330 2401 165 Notice of Appeal 1401 330 2402 165 Filing a brief in support of an appeal 330.00 330.00 340 2002 170 Design filing fee	Large Entity	Smal	l Enti	ty		1254	1,480	2254	740		
1401 330 2401 165 Notice of Appeal 1401 330 2401 165 Notice of Appeal 330.00 1402 340 2002 170 Design filing fee				Fee Description	on Fee Paid	1255	2,010	2255	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1403 290 2403 145 Request for oral hearing 1404 2452 55 Petition to revive - unavoidable 1405 2453 Reguest for oral hearing 1405 2453 Reguest for each substitute a public use proceeding 1405 2453 Reguest for oral hearing 1405 2453 Reguest for or		i .		Utility filing fee		1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal	
1004 770 2004 385 Reissue filling fee	1002 340	2002	170	Design filing fee		1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	330.00
1452 110 2452 55 Petition to revive - unavoidable 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1452 116 1453 1365 1453 1350 1450 1450 1350 1450 1350 1450 1350 1450 1350 14	1003 530	2003	265	Plant filing fee		1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing	
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$) 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1501 1,330 2501 665 Utility issue fee (or reissue) 1502 480 2502 240 Design issue fee 1503 640 2503 320 Plant issue fee 1503 640 2503 320	1004 770	2004	385	Reissue filing fe	ee	1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND Extra Claims	1005 160	2005	80	Provisional filing	g fee	1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND Extra Claims Fee from below Fee Paid Independent - 20** = 0				1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive - unintentional			
Extra Claims below Fee Paid Total Claims 2.20** = 0 X = 0.00 1503 640 2503 320 Plant issue fee 1504 640 2503 320 Plant issue fee 1503 640 2503 320 Plant issue fee 150				1501	1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)			
Total Claims	Z. EXTRA	CLAI	IVI FC		Fee from	1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee	
Independent		E			20.011	1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee	
Claims Multiple Dependent Large Entity Small Entity Fee Fee Code (\$) Code (1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
Large Entity Small Entity Fee Fee Code (\$) Submission of Information Disclosure Statement	Claims	الساء	- 3	= [1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(q)	
Code (\$) Code (\$) 1202 18 2202 9 Claims in excess of 20 1201 86 2201 43 Independent claims in excess of 3 1203 290 2203 145 Multiple dependent claims, if not paid 1204 86 2204 43 **Reissue independent claims over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent 1205 1802 900 1802 900 Request for expedited examination of a design application 1205 1802 900 1802 900 Request for expedited examination 1205 900 Province 1205 1802 9			l Entit	X		1806	180	1806	180		
1202 18 2202 9 Claims in excess of 20 1201 86 2201 43 Independent claims in excess of 3 1203 290 2203 145 Multiple dependent claims, if not paid 1204 86 2204 43 ** Reissue independent claims over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) \$0.00 1809 770 2809 385 Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a)) 1810 770 2810 385 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b)) 1801 770 2801 385 Request for Continued Examination (RCE) 1802 900 1802 900 Request for expedited examination of a design application Other fee (specify) **Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) \$330.00				Fee Des	cription	8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1203 290 2203 145 Multiple dependent claims in excess of 3 1810 770 2810 385 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b)) 1801 770 2801 385 Request for Continued Examination (RCE) 1802 900 1802 900 Request for expedited examination of a design application Other fee (specify) **or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above 1810 770 2810 385 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b)) 1801 770 2801 385 Request for Continued Examination (RCE) 1802 900 Request for expedited examination of a design application Other fee (specify) **Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) \$330.00		l				1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection	
1204 86 2204 43 ** Reissue independent claims over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) \$0.00 **or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above 1801 770 2801 385 Request for Continued Examination (RCE) 1802 900 1802 900 Request for expedited examination of a design application Other fee (specify) *Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) \$330.00		i		•		1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be examined	
over original patent 1205 18 2205 9 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) \$0.00 **or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) \$330.00					·	1801	770	2801	385		
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SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) \$0.00 **or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above *Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) \$330.00					1						
**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above *Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) \$330.00	and over original patent			Other fee (specify)							
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Complete (if englished)	or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above										

SUBMITTED BY				Complete (if a	applicable)
Name (Print/Type)	Shahpar Shahpar	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	45,875	Telephone	(602) 382-6306
Signature	5.8W			Date	January <u>14,</u> 2004

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	47
Application Number	09/224,340
Filing Date	December 31, 1998
First Named Inventor	Mario DiMarco
Art Unit	2841
Examiner Name	Tuan T. Dinh

PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

Total Number of Pages in This Submiss	Attorney Docket Number	46180.3900/A62-17022-US					
ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)							
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Fee Attached	Licensing-related Papers	Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences					
Amendment / Reply	Petition	Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)					
After Final	Petition to Convert a Provisional Application	Proprietary Information					
Affidavits/declaration(s)	Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence	Status Letter					
Extension of Time Request	Terminal Disclaimer	Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):					
Express Abandonment Request	Request for Refund						
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Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	Remarks						
Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application							
Response to Missing Parts							
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53							
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT							
Firm or Individual name Shahpar Shahpar, Snell & Wilmer LLP One Arizona Center, 400 East Van Buren Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2202							
Signature S-SUL							
Date January 4, 2004							

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